

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly cancel claims 10 and 11.

Kindly amend claims 1 and 21 as follows:

Kindly add new claim 22 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A high hardness, soft composite material which consists of an organic/inorganic composite material comprising
at least 60% by weight of inorganic components including an aggregate component of 2 to 70 mesh and a fine particle component of 100 mesh or smaller in a weight ratio of the aggregate component to the fine particle component of 1/10 to 10/1, wherein at least a part of the aggregate component is a transparent component with a surface covered with a pigment component, and 40% by weight or less of organic components,
wherein the composite material has a surface Vickers hardness, measured according to JIS Z 2244, of at least 400 and a radius of curvature R, at which the material is bendable without being broken, of 25-1,000 mm based on a plate-shaped body having a 3 to 15 mm thickness.
- 2-4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Previously presented) The composite material according to claim 1, wherein the main component of the organic component is a curing resin.
7. (Previously presented) The composite material according to claim 6, wherein the main component resin of the organic component is a methacrylate resin.

8. (Previously presented) The composite material according to claim 6, wherein the organic component contains a plasticizer.

9. (Previously presented) The composite material according to claim 6, wherein the resin is contained by 6 to 15% by weight with respect to the total amount.

10-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously presented) The composite material according to claim 1, wherein a luminous material or a fluorescent material is contained.

13. (Previously presented) The composite material according to claim 1, wherein a flame retarder is contained.

14. (Previously presented) The composite material according to claim 1, wherein a pigment for coloring is contained in the organic component.

15. (Previously presented) The composite material according to claim 1, wherein an antibacterial agent is contained.

16. (Previously presented) The composite material according to claim 1, wherein the surface of a compact is treated by polishing, a water jet process, or a water jet process after polishing.

17. (Previously presented) The composite material according to claim 1, wherein the main component of the organic component is a methacrylate resin, to be cured by a combination of a polymethacrylate and at least one member selected from the group consisting of a methacrylate monomer, and an acrylate monomer.

18. (Previously presented) The composite material according to claim 17, wherein the polymethacrylate is a polymethyl methacrylate, the methacrylate monomer and the acrylate monomer is one selected from the group consisting of a methyl methacrylate, an ethylhexyl methacrylate, and an ethylhexyl acrylate.

19. (Previously presented) The composite material according to claim 1, wherein a force needed for a bending process of a plate-shaped body having a 3 to 15 mm thickness is 1 kgf/cm² or less.

20. (Previously presented) The composite material according to claim 1, wherein the aggregate component is at least one member selected from the group consisting of metal, natural stone and ore.

21. (Currently amended) The composite material according to claim 1, wherein the aggregate component is at least one member selected from the group consisting of granite aggregate, marble aggregate, metamorphic rock aggregate, quartz aggregate, feldspar aggregate, mica aggregate, molten silica aggregate, glass aggregate, metal aggregate and pottery aggregate.

22. (New) A high hardness, soft composite material which consists of an organic/inorganic composite material comprising

at least 60% by weight of inorganic components including an aggregate component of 2 to 70 mesh and a fine particle component of 100 mesh or smaller in a weight ratio of the aggregate component to the fine particle component of 1/10 to 10/1, wherein the fine particle component includes a luminous material or a fluorescent material, and

40% by weight or less of organic components,

wherein the composite material has a surface Vickers hardness, measured according to JIS Z 2244, of at least 400 and a radius of curvature R, at which the material is bendable without being broken, of 25-1,000 mm based on a plate-shaped body having a 3 to 15 mm thickness.